

Home to Research Triangle Park (RTP) and North Carolina's leading research universities, the Fourth District boasts one of the most vibrant and fastest-growing science and technology sectors in the country.

The Triangle's remarkable success was no accident: it reflects visionary leadership and a pragmatic approach to economic development that recognizes the need for private enterprise, the university community, and government at all levels to work together in support of common goals. From the path-breaking cancer and disease research at UNC and Duke hospitals, to private-sector leaders such as Cree and SAS, to the major Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and National Institute for Environmental Health Studies (NIEHS) research facilities in RTP, the Triangle's success has been built upon a foundation of public-private partnership.

This partnership requires an unwavering federal commitment to policies that facilitate and support innovation, including robust federal investments in scientific and technological research, incentives such as the Research & Development Tax Credit, and seed money for fledgling enterprises such as Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants. Scientific and technological research is central to our nation's ability to innovate and compete in the global economy, today and in the future. In fact, economists estimate that nearly half the growth in America's GDP since World War II is related to the development and adoption of new technologies. Federal investments are the bedrock of this R&D enterprise: about two-thirds of the nation's basic research is directly supported by federal agencies.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have championed increased funding for scientific agencies such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health, and the Department of Energy's Office of Science. My efforts on the Appropriations Committee have paralleled my support for other federal programs designed to spur innovation, including my authorship of NSF's Advanced Technical Education program, which supports high-tech training initiatives at our nation's community colleges. I am also a member of the Congressional Research and Development Caucus and the Congressional Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education Caucus.

Unfortunately, our nation's science and technology efforts have come under threat in the current Congress as House Republicans have cut investments in research and innovation in the name of deficit reduction. I have fought these efforts at every turn, including by authoring a letter to the deficit reduction "Supercommittee" opposing cuts to federal investments in research and education. I have also opposed misguided Republican efforts to reform federal grant-making

programs in ways that would undermine innovation and intellectual property.

Our nation's strength, security, and prosperity all depend on our ability to out-innovate our competitors. As your Member of Congress, I will continue to fight for the robust federal investments in research, education, and job creation that are so essential to our economic development in the Triangle and throughout the country.

For information about applying for federal grants, visit my grants page.

Additional Information:

- [National Science Foundation](#)
- [National Institutes of Health](#)
- [Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [NASA](#)
- [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#)
- [National Institutes of Standards and Technology](#)